90/588241 IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 AUG 2006

Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 316038347 US

Date of Deposit: August 1, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: HOFLER et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 1, 2006

For: CONNECTION SYSTEM FOR Group Art Unit:
CONNECTING AT LEAST ONE Not Yet Assigned

CONTACT OF AT LEAST FLAT BLOCK OF COMPONENTS TO AT LEAST ONE APPARATUS

Attorney Docket No: 11371/129 Client No. (2003P12333WOUS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicants hereby cite the following references:

U.S. AND FOREIGN REFERENCES

Patent/ Publication No.	Date of Issue/Publication	Patentee/Applicant/Country		
6,066,006	05/23/2000	Shaw		
6,036,508	03/14/2000	Anderson et al.		
5.411,418	05/02/1995	Welsh et al.		
4,812,130	03/14/1989	Altenschulte		
WO 02/089260 A3	11/07/2002	PCT		

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants are enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet) and a copy of cited reference A5. As each of the listed references is in English, no further commentary is believed to be necessary, 37 C.F.R §1.98(a)(3). Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's consideration of the above references and entry thereof into the record of this application.

Also enclosed are copies of the International Search Report dated August 2, 2005 and the International Preliminary Examination Report (with translation into

1 4 1

IAP11 Rec'd PC1/PTO 01 AUG 2006

English) dated June 13, 2006 for the corresponding PCT Application No. PCT/EP2004/053725.

By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

August 1, 2006

Craig A. Summerfield Reg. No. 37,947

Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE Post Office Box 10395 Chicago, Illinois 60610 312/321-4200

10/588241 IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 AUG 2006

FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	Not Yet Assigned	11371/129
		(2003P12333WOUS)
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	August 1, 2006	Not Yet Assigned
	APPLICANTS: HOFLER et al.	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	6,066,006	05/23/2000	Shaw		
	A2	6,036,508	03/14/2000	Anderson et al.		
	A3	5.411,418	05/02/1995	Welsh et al.		
	A4	4,812,130	03/14/1989	Altenschulte		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A5	WO 02/089260 A3	11/07/2002	PCT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.